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Swan Creek and Black River Chippewas.

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SWAN CREEK AND BLACK RIVER CHIPPEWAS.

MAY 19, 1896.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CURTIS, of Kansas, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 7569.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7569) authorizing the issuance of patents to the Swan Creek and Black River Chippewas, and the Munsee or Christian Indians of Kansas, and for the sale of their reservation in Kansas, and for other purposes, having had the same under consideration, submit the following favorable report:

This is a bill to authorize the appointment of a commissioner to investigate and make a report of the title of the individual members of the Chippewa and Christian Indians of Franklin County, Kans., to the several tracts of land within their reservation for which certificates have been issued under the treaty of 1859, and to make a census of said Indians; and when the report is made the bill authorizes patents to be issued to those entitled to the land held by them.

The residue of their lands are to be appraised and sold to the highest bidder and at a price not less than the appraised value.

The bill also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to pay to said Indians, in his discretion, per capita, the sum of \$42,560.36, trust funds now to their credit on the books of the Treasury Department.

This bill was introduced at the request of a number of the members of said tribe, and has been approved by a majority since its introduction.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs urges that it be passed during this Congress, as its passage will be to the advantage of the Indians and relieve that office of much embarrassment.

The members of these tribes only number 80 persons, as follows: Males over 18 years, 19; females over 14 years, 23; children between 6 and 16 years, 27. They only have 4,395 acres of land, all but a small part of which has been allotted.

In view of the fact that this bill is asked for by the Indians, and is recommended by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and no appropriation is made but \$1,000 which is reimbursable, your committee recommend its passage without amendment.